



# USDA-NASS North Dakota Field Office

P. O. Box 3166, Fargo, ND 58108-3166  
Telephone: 701-239-5306 FAX: 701-239-5613  
E-mail: [nass-nd@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-nd@nass.usda.gov)

## NEWS RELEASE

Cattle  
January 27, 2006

### Cattle Inventory Up

#### North Dakota

**All cattle and calves** as of January 1, 2006 totaled 1.72 million head, up slightly from 1.71 million head on January 1, 2005, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. This is the first increase in inventory after a four year decline since 1.98 million head on January 1, 2001, and the second lowest total inventory since 1991, which was 1.70 million head.

**All cows and heifers that have calved**, at 970,000 head, were down 1 percent from 980,000 on January 1, 2005 but equal to the number of cows on January 1, 2004. **Beef cows**, at 937,000, were also down 1 percent from last year but equal to 2004. **Milk cows**, at 33,000 head, were equal to the last two years.

**All heifers 500 pounds and over**, at 366,000 head, were down 2 percent from a year ago. **Heifers for beef cow replacement**, at 157,000 head, were up 7 percent from 147,000 head last year. **Heifers for milk cow replacement**, at 19,000 head, were up from 18,000 a year ago to the highest January 1 inventory since 20,000 head in 1998. **Other heifers** not for breeding, at 190,000 head, were down from 210,000 head a year ago and were at the lowest level since January 1, 1993, which was 165,000 head.

**Steers weighing 500 pounds and over**, at 220,000 head, were down 4 percent from last year to the lowest level since January 1, 1991, which was 210,000 head.

**Calves under 500 pounds**, at 105,000 head, were up from last year's 70,000 head and were the highest since January 1, 2003 when 116,000 head were on hand.

**All cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots, at 60,000 head, were equal to a year ago, which was the lowest level since January 1, 1991 when 50,000 head were on feed.

**The 2005 calf crop** is estimated at 930,000 head, down from 2004's calf crop of 960,000 head. This is the lowest since the 1992 calf crop of 920,000 head.

#### United States

**All cattle and calves** as of January 1, 2006, totaled 97.1 million head, 2 percent above the 95.4 million on January 1, 2005.

**All cows and heifers** that have calved, at 42.3 million, were up 1 percent from the 41.9 million on January 1, 2005. **Beef cows**, at 33.3 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005. **Milk cows**, at 9.06 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2006, and the change from January 1, 2005, are as follows: **All heifers 500 pounds and over**, 20.0 million, up 2 percent; **beef replacement heifers**, 5.90 million, up 4 percent; **milk replacement heifers**, 4.28 million, up 4 percent; and **other heifers**, 9.80 million, up slightly.

**Steers weighing 500 pounds and over**, 16.9 million, up 3 percent. **Calves under 500 pounds**, 15.6 million, up 2 percent. **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.1 million, up 3 percent. The combined total of **calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds** outside of feedlots was 28.2 million, up 2 percent.

**The 2005 calf crop** was estimated at 37.8 million head, up 1 percent from 2004. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.4 million, up slightly from 2004.

#### For More Information Contact:

David Knopf, Director, USDA, NASS, North Dakota Field Office • NDSU, IACC 448 • Fargo, ND • 701-239-5306  
E-mail: [nass-nd@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-nd@nass.usda.gov) • Internet: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/nd/>

**Cattle and Calves: Inventory, Calf Crop and Cattle on Feed  
North Dakota and United States, January 1, 2005-2006**

Class	North Dakota		United States	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
<b>All Cattle and Calves</b>	1,710	1,720	95,438	97,102
Cows and Heifers That Calved	980	970	41,920	42,311
Beef Cows	947	937	32,915	33,253
Milk Cows	33	33	9,005	9,058
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over	375	366	19,573	19,978
For Beef Cow Replacement	147	157	5,691	5,905
Expected to Calve <sup>2/</sup>			3,496	3,574
For Milk Cow Replacement	18	19	4,118	4,278
Expected to Calve <sup>2/</sup>			2,815	2,890
Other Heifers	210	190	9,763	9,795
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	230	220	16,476	16,923
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	55	59	2,219	2,263
Calves Under 500 Pounds	70	105	15,250	15,626
<b>Calf Crop</b> <sup>3/</sup>	960	930	37,505	37,780
<b>Cattle on Feed</b>	60	60	13,745	14,132

*1/ Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/ Replacement heifers expected to calve during the year, published at U.S. level only. 3/ Preceding year.*

January 27, 2006

~ Compiled and Published by ~

USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

North Dakota Field Office P.O. Box 3166, Fargo, ND 58108-3166 701-239-5306

Internet - <http://www.nass.usda.gov/nd/> To access NASS reports - <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>